



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

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Office of the Director

RG:0030

October 22, 1976

Mr. Randy Jackson  
Planning Office  
Dept. of Land & Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621  
Honolulu, HI 96809

Dear Mr. Jackson:

## Kauai Preliminary Recommendation of the Recreation Resource Plan

The following comments have been prepared for your consideration with the assistance of John Moriyama, Pacific Urban Studies and Planning Program; Allan Sommarstrom, Geography Dept.; and Doak C. Cox, Jacquelin Miller, and Margaret Stanzione of the Environmental Center.

### General Comments

The development and preparation of the plans presented is certainly a commendable task and one which surely will prove essential in the long range planning of recreation resources.

One major question which comes to mind when reviewing the plans concerns the intention to "identity resource conflicts that exist between various proposed uses for recreation resources." It is not clear whether this statement concerns conflicts between different managing agencies (DLNR and the various counties) or conflicts between the current or proposed useage of designated recreational areas. For example, each recreation area includes a wide range of recreational opportunities without specifically discussing the conflicts which may arise between the different recreational activities. Page 5, the Na Pali Coast Expansion, includes "backcountry experiences" and and "scenic views" as part of its recreational significance. It does not discuss the conflicts between backpackers in the area enjoying the back-country experience and spectators in aircraft (helicopter tours) enjoying the "scenic views." Those who are there to enjoy the backcountry experience should not have to tolerate noisy interruptions by aircraft on a regular basis. Perhaps certain designated areas for both activities should be included in the recreational plan, as well as recognition of these conflicts.

Page 2, Para. 1, line 1

"undating" should be "updating"

Page 3, General Needs and Findings

A. What specifically is meant by the statement, "There is a need to increase the management of existing parks..."?

C. The ways in which off-island use of recreational resources "interfere" with the Kauai resident's use of these resources should be identified. The interests and needs of those people using state recreational areas for fishing and food gathering, hiking, camping, etc. would seem to have a high degree of similarity regardless of the residence of the participant.

D. Why is such a long term (6 to 10 years) implementation plan desirable?

Page 4, IV. Potential for New Recreation Opportunities

It makes good sense to incorporate and list those areas identified for their recreational opportunities by the Division of Forestry, Fish and Game, and State Parks. During the inventory of resource areas with potential recreational value, were any new areas identified that had not previously been part of any known list?

Missing from the list of potential recreational areas are several in which there are no immediate problems because of limited access, but in which future recreational opportunities are important and should be protected. These include Olokele Canyon, upper Hanapepe Valley, the upper valleys of Huleia and Wailua, upper Hanalei and Lumakai Valleys.

Page 5, Para. 3, lines 1-2

"Enhancement" of feature is not feasible. Enhancement of access to enjoy the features should be considered, but probably must be limited to avoid deterioration. Protection of features is the prime need.

Page 5, Para. 4, lines 8-9

Why is Kilauea estuary the best in the State? What about Waialua, or even Huleia, Hanalei, Wainiha, etc.?

Page 6, Para. 5

What possibilities are there for improving public access to the "Barking Sands" dune area prior to its release by the military? The potential impact on nesting grounds of the Hawaiian sea turtle must be carefully evaluated when planning access to shoreline areas such as the Polihale-Barking Sands region.

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What is meant by "Wainiha Surrender Lands" on this map?

What criteria will be used in determining the direction and implementation priorities for the final recreation Resource System Plan and Trails and Access System Plan for Kauai?

We appreciate the opportunity to have commented on these plans and look forward to reviewing the final recommendations.

Very truly yours,

*Doak C. Cox* (MC)

Doak C. Cox,  
Director

cc: Contributors